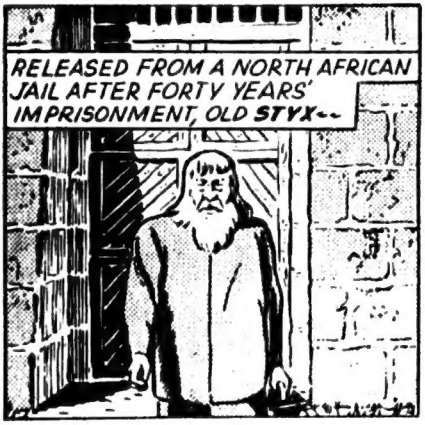
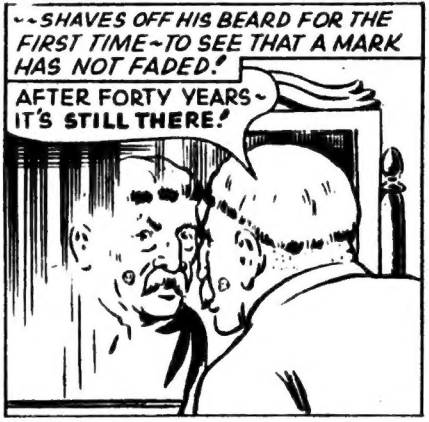

RELEASED FROM A NORTH AFRICAN JAIL AFTER FORTY YEARS' IMPRISONMENT, OLD STYX--


--SHAVES OFF HIS BEARD FOR THE FIRST TIME--TO SEE THAT A MARK HAS NOT FADED!
AFTER FORTY YEARS--IT'S STILL THERE!

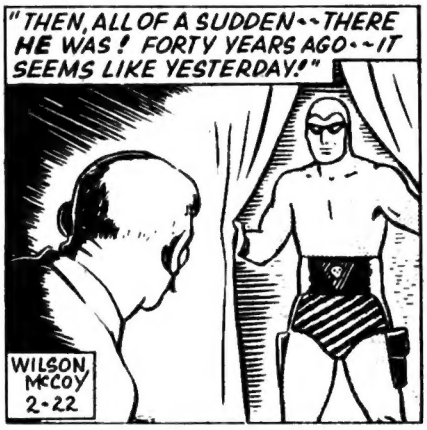
HMM--IT WON'T COME OFF! I SHOULDN'T HAVE SHAVED--

FORTY YEARS AGO THE PHANTOM PUNCHED ME--THE MARK'S STILL THERE. WHAT A PUNCH THAT WAS!
FORTY YEARS AGO--- WHICH PHANTOM?
WILSON McCOY 2-21

FORTY YEARS AGO--I WAS ONLY TWENTY-THREE. THE PHANTOM WAS MUCH OLDER THAN I WAS THEN.

"KILLER STYX THEY CALLED ME. I WAS DOING ALL RIGHT THEN--HIJACKING THOSE RICH CAMEL CARAVANS--"
COPR. 1962, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

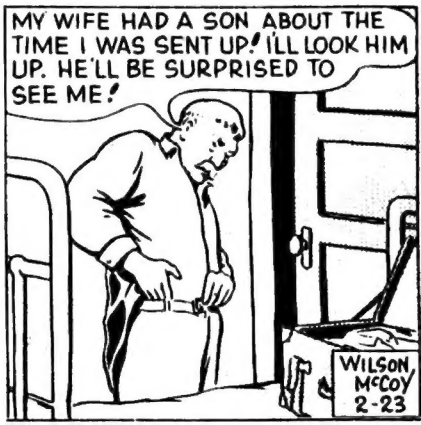
"I'D HEARD OF THE PHANTOM SINCE I WAS A BOY--THOUGHT HE WAS JUST A LEGEND--THERE I WAS, COUNTING MY LOOT--"
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED


"THEN, ALL OF A SUDDEN--THERE HE WAS! FORTY YEARS AGO--IT SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY!"
WILSON McCOY 2-22

"FORTY YEARS AGO--I FIRST HEARD HIS VOICE--"
STYX, YOUR CAMEL RAIDS ARE OVER! YOU'RE GOING TO JAIL!

"I REACHED FOR A GUN--THAT'S WHERE I MADE MY MISTAKE! I CAN STILL FEEL THAT PUNCH--"

--AND THE MARK HE MADE IS STILL THERE! BUT I'M STILL ALIVE! HE MUST BE DEAD BY NOW--


MY WIFE HAD A SON ABOUT THE TIME I WAS SENT UP! I'LL LOOK HIM UP. HE'LL BE SURPRISED TO SEE ME!
WILSON McCOY 2-23

IF I AIN'T LOST TRACK, THIS IS MY SON.
MIKE'S

HEY--CUT OUT THAT RACKET!

I TOLD YOU GUYS TO STAY OUTA HERE---

~ AN' DON'T COME BACK!
THAT'S MY BOY!
WILSON McCOY 2-24

YEAH, I'M MIKE! WHAT IS IT, OLD-TIMER? I'M BUSY. MAKE IT SNAPPY!
MIKE--HMM. I HAVE NEWS FOR YOU--

IT MAY BE A SHOCK. MEBBE YOU'D BETTER SIT DOWN AND LISTEN.
I CAN HEAR ANYTHING STANDIN' UP! WHAT IS IT?

YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ME BEFORE. I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE. YOU PROBABLY THOUGHT I WAS DEAD. I'M YOUR FATHER!

NO---!
WILSON McCOY 2-25

HOW DO I KNOW YOU'RE MY OLD MAN?
THESE PAPERS WILL PROVE IT, MIKE.

HUM--I THOUGHT YOU WAS~DEAD. BEEN OUTA CIRCULATION FORTY YEARS, EH?
YES, I WAS SENT UP-- ABOUT THE TIME YOU WERE BORN.

I DON'T MIND. I SERVED TIME MYSELF. WELL, I GUESS I CAN TAKE CARE OF YOU, ALL RIGHT.
TAKE CARE OF ME? YOU DON'T KNOW YOUR FATHER YET-- BUT YOU WILL!

I HAVEN'T COME FOR CHARITY. I HAVE FIVE MILLION DOLLARS IN GOLD BULLION! DO YOU WANT YOUR SHARE?
HUH???
WILSON McCOY 2-26

STYX TEACHES HIS SON RESPECT--
OKAY, POP, YOU'RE THE BOSS. NOW WHAT ABOUT THAT TREASURE?
THAT'S BETTER.

I BURIED THE GOLD BULLION IN AN OLD SCOW, UNDERWATER. WE NEED PASSAGE MONEY - AND MUST LEAVE AT ONCE FOR AMERICA

I GOT THE MONEY, BUT WHAT ABOUT MY JOINT HERE?
FORGET IT. IT'S PEANUTS. AS MY SON, YOU'VE GOT TO LEARN TO THINK BIG!

GEE, POP, IT'S SURE GOOD TO SEE YOU.
I DON'T DOUBT THAT.
WILSON McCOY 2-28

DIANA'S UNCLE, MAJOR DAVE PALMER, RETURNING FROM A QUICK TRIP TO LONDON--
HOPE WE HAVE A CALM CROSSING.

GEE, I NEVER BEEN ACROSS BEFORE. HAVE YOU, POP?
MANY TIMES, WHEN I WAS VERY YOUNG, MIKE.

THAT MARK - ON THAT OLD MAN'S JAW - IT LOOKED LIKE A DEATH'S-HEAD - THE SIGN OF THE PHANTOM! IT WAS HIS MARK--
WILSON McCOY 3-1

LOOKS LIKE A NICE CROSSING
YUP.
YUP.

PALMER'S MY NAME.
THAT SO?
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HOPE I'M NOT BEING TOO PERSONAL - BUT THAT'S AN ODD MARK ON YOUR JAW. IS IT A TATTOO?
COULD BE. I'VE HAD IT FORTY YEARS.
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

THAT-- THAT'S A LONG TIME.
CAN BE - DEPENDING HOW YOU SPEND IT. ANY MORE QUESTIONS?
WILSON McCOY 3-2

I HOPE I DIDN'T OFFEND YOU, MENTIONING THAT MARK. YOU KNOW HOW LIFE ON SHIPBOARD IS~ INFORMAL~
SEEMS TO BE~~

IF YOU DON'T KNOW AMERICA, I'D BE GLAD TO HELP YOU~ IF YOU NEED A HOTEL OR~~
WE COULD USE A HOTEL~~

I CAN RECOMMEND THE COMPO HOUSE. IT'S VERY~~
REMEMBER THAT, MIKE.

PHEW! WHAT A PAIR OF COLD FISH! PARTICULARLY THE OLD ONE! HARD AS NAILS! AND THE SKULL MARK~ WHERE DID HE GET IT?
WILSON McCOY 3-3

THERE'S THAT GUY AGAIN. IF HE ASKS ANY MORE QUESTIONS, I'LL WALLOP HIM!
AW, HE WAS JUST NOSY

I'M POSITIVE THAT'S THE PHANTOM'S MARK ON THE OLD MAN'S JAW. HE SAID HE HAD IT FOR FORTY YEARS~~ NO REASON TO DOUBT THAT~~

BUT THE PHANTOM THAT I KNOW COULDN'T HAVE BEEN EVEN BORN THEN! YET~ THERE'S THAT OLD LEGEND ABOUT THE PHANTOM~ THAT HE'S IMMORTAL~ CENTURIES OLD~~

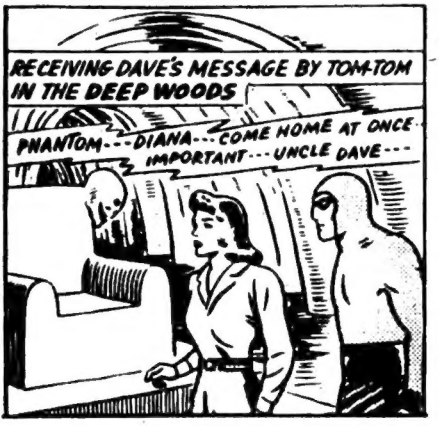
IS DIANA'S SWEETHEART~ OUR PHANTOM~ REALLY AGELESS? I'VE GOT TO KNOW!
WILSON McCOY 3-4

DAVE, WELCOME HOME!
LILY, HOW OLD DO YOU THINK THE PHANTOM IS?

WHY~UH~ AROUND THIRTY, I GUESS. WHY~~?
THEN HOW COULD HE LEAVE HIS MARK ON A MAN'S JAW FORTY YEARS AGO? THAT MAKES HIM SIXTY OR SEVENTY OR MORE~~

NEVER MIND QUESTIONS NOW. I MUST RADIO HIM. DO YOU HAVE HIS ADDRESS?
I HAVE A CABLE ADDRESS THAT DIANA LEFT ME~

DAVE'S RADIOGRAM SPEEDS HALF-WAY AROUND THE EARTH. WILL HE SOLVE THE MYSTERY?
PHANTOM-- DIANA-- COME HOME AT ONCE-- UNCLE DAVE.
WILSON McCOY 3-5


RECEIVING DAVE'S MESSAGE BY TOM-TOM IN THE DEEP WOODS
PHANTOM---DIANA---COME HOME AT ONCE IMPORTANT---UNCLE DAVE---

-THE PHANTOM AND DIANA LEAVE QUICKLY-
I GUESS WE MUST RETURN.
DAVE WOULDN'T SEND FOR US WITHOUT GOOD REASON.

AT THE JUNGLE'S EDGE, THE PHANTOM SLIPS INTO CIVILIZED CLOTHES--
WONDER WHAT DAVE WANTS! HE'S NEVER SENT FOR ME BEFORE.

-SOON THEY'RE WINGING THEIR WAY HOME-THE PHANTOM IS HEADING INTO THE ODDEST MYSTERY OF HIS LIFE!
WILSON McCOY 3-7

A SUITE FOR MY SON AND MYSELF, PLEASE. THE BEST IN THE HOUSE!

SEE SOMETHIN' FUNNY?
ER-NO, SIR! FRONT, BOY--
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EVERYBODY NOTICES THIS MARK, RIGHT OFF! MEBBE I CAN GET A FALSE BEARD, OR SOMETHING.
THAT'D BE WORSE, POP. WHY DON'T YOU GROW YOUR OWN ALFALFA?
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

NOT ME. I HAD A BEARD FOR FORTY YEARS-IN JAIL! LET 'EM LOOK! WE GOT TO GET TO WORK!
UMM-FIVE MILLION IN GOLD!
WILSON McCOY 3-8

AS THE PHANTOM AND DIANA FLY OVER THE OCEAN-
BUT CAN'T I TAKE YOUR HAT, SIR?
NO, THANKS. I'LL WEAR IT.

THAT OLD MAN WITH THE SKULL MARK INTRIGUES ME. I RECOMMENDED THIS HOTEL. I THINK HE'S STAYING HERE-
CONFO HOUSE

THERE'S THAT NOSY GUY FROM THE BOAT, MIKE.
SPYIN' ON US? I'LL GO DOWN AND SMEAR HIM!

WHAT IS STYX'S SECRET?
HE KNOWS NOTHING. JUST CURIOUS. I TALK TOO MUCH. FORGET HIM. NOW-WE'RE GOING TO NEED SOME TOUGH BOYS TO HELP US--
WILSON McCOY 3-9

THE PHANTOM-AND DIANA-ARE ARRIVING TODAY! RIGHT NOW!
DAVE--WAIT FOR ME--!
COPR. 1938, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

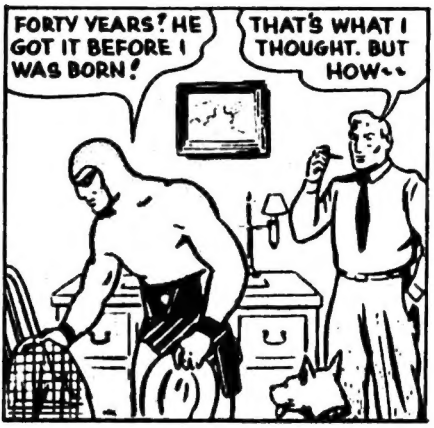
UNCLE DAVE-- MAMA!
DIANA--!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED.

HELLO, SIR. WE CAME AS FAST AS WE COULD. WHAT IS THE--
HOW OLD ARE YOU?

DID YOU BRING US ALL THE WAY FROM BENGALI TO ASK THAT?
YES, AS A MATTER OF FACT, I DID!
WILSON McCOY 3-10

I MET AN OLD MAN ON THE BOAT. HE HAD A MARK ON HIS JAW- A SKULL MARK- YOUR MARK!
NO-!

I QUESTIONED HIM, RATHER CLUMSILY, AND LEARNED HE'D HAD THAT MARK FOR FORTY YEARS!


FORTY YEARS? HE GOT IT BEFORE I WAS BORN!
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT. BUT HOW--

MY MARK CAN ONLY BE MADE BY THIS SKULL RING. PERHAPS WHAT YOU SAW ONLY LOOKED LIKE IT. I'LL MAKE IT. HERE, SEE IF IT IS THE SAME.
WILSON McCOY 3-11

IS THIS WHAT YOU SAW ON THE MAN'S JAW?
THAT'S IT! I'M POSITIVE!

I MUST FIND THAT MAN AT ONCE. KNOW WHERE HE IS?
LUCKILY, YES. I RECOMMENDED A HOTEL, AND HE AND HIS SON WENT THERE--

IS THERE AN ELDERLY MAN REGISTERED HERE, WITH HIS SON? THE MAN HAS AN ODD MARK ON HIS JAW--
I KNOW WHO YOU MEAN--

THEY CHECKED OUT THIS MORNING.
OH, NO! DON'T TELL ME THEY'RE GONE! NOW I'LL DIE OF CURIOSITY!
WILSON McCOY 3-12

WHILE THE PHANTOM SEARCHES FOR THE MYSTERIOUS MAN--
SEEN A MAN WITH A SKULL MARK ON HIS FACE?
HAH?

~THE MAN, OLD STYX, TELLS HIS SON MIKE HOW HE SANK HIS CRAFT AND ITS GOLD CARGO OVER FORTY YEARS BEFORE TO ESCAPE CAPTURE--

THE GOLD MUST BE THERE! IRON BOXES! FIND 'EM, MIKE!

WILSON McCOY 3-14

SEARCHING FOR THE GOLD IN THE OLD WRECK, MIKE SEES OTHER THINGS--

HE CLIMBS CAREFULLY ABOARD THE WRECK--

WEDGED BY WATER AND MUD, THE CABIN DOOR WON'T BUDGE--

THEN, PEERING THRU A PORTHOLE~
IRON BOXES! THE GOLD!
WILSON McCOY 3-15

UNDERWATER, AT THE OLD WRECK, MIKE SIGNALS HE'S COMING UP--

WELL?
IT'S-PUFF-ALL THERE! TEN IRON BOXES! FULL OF--HOW MUCH GOLD?

FIVE MILLION! I KNEW IT! STILL THERE~AFTER FORTY YEARS!
I SAW SOMETHIN' ELSE DOWN THERE~TWO SKELETONS~

AH~MY EX-PARTNERS! WE HAD A DISAGREEMENT. I LEFT THEM--TO WATCH IT FOR ME! THEY HAVE GUARDED IT~WELL!
WILSON McCOY 3-16

DIANA? I'VE PICKED UP THE TRAIL OF THE MAN WITH THE MARK. SEE YOU LATER.
CAREFUL, DARLING! DON'T GET HURT.

I KNOW THE MAN YOU MEAN. NAME OF STYX. TOOK A SUITE ON THE TOP FLOOR. WENT OUT EARLY THIS MORNIN'.

YEAH, I DROVE THEM TO THE END OF THE ISLAND THIS MORNIN! MADE TWENTY BUCKS.
TAKE ME THERE AND MAKE ANOTHER TWENTY.

I'VE NO REASON TO FOLLOW THESE MEN. BUT I MUST KNOW IF THE ONE REALLY CARRIES MY MARK ~ AND IF SO ~ HOW HE GOT IT TEN YEARS BEFORE I WAS BORN!
WILSON McCOY 3-17

THEY WENT TO THAT BOAT-HOUSE. THANKS!
THANK YOU.

I'M LOOKING FOR A PARTY THAT WENT OUT FISHING TODAY.
ONLY RENTED ONE LAUNCH TODAY. DON'T THINK THEY WENT FISHIN'.

~ UNLESS THEY PLANNED TO CATCH 'EM BY HAND! TOOK DIVIN' EQUIPMENT WITH THEM.
HMM ~ WHAT DID THEY LOOK LIKE?

OLD FELLA HAD A FUNNY MARK ON HIS JAW ~ LIKE A ~ WELL ~ LIKE A SKULL. THERE THEY ARE, TWO MILES OUT ~ ~ ~
WILSON McCOY 3-18

THINK THEM ARE YOUR FRIENDS IN THAT LAUNCH?
I'M NOT SURE. HAVE YOU ANY FIELD GLASSES?

GOT SOMETHIN' BETTER. THAT TELESCOPE. USE IT TO WATCH MY BOATS. CAN DARN NEAR SEE TO CHINA THRU IT.

I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE! BUT ON HIS JAW ~ THAT IS MY MARK!
WILSON McCOY 3-19

THE PHANTOM TRAILS OLD STYX AND HIS SON, MIKE--
THAT IS MY MARK-THE MARK OF THE PHANTOM!

THAT MARK WAS MADE BEFORE I WAS BORN - MADE BY THE PHANTOM BEFORE ME-BY MY FATHER!

-I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN THERE'VE BEEN PHANTOMS BEFORE ME- FOR FOUR CENTURIES! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE RUN INTO EVIDENCE OF IT!

NOW- THE QUESTION IS- WHAT ARE THEY UP TO--IF ANYTHING- AND WHY AM I FOLLOWING THEM?
WILSON, McCOY 3-21

FORTY YEARS AGO MY FATHER TRAILED THAT MAN AND CAUGHT HIM. NOW I'M TRAILING HIM. IT'S A SMALL WORLD--

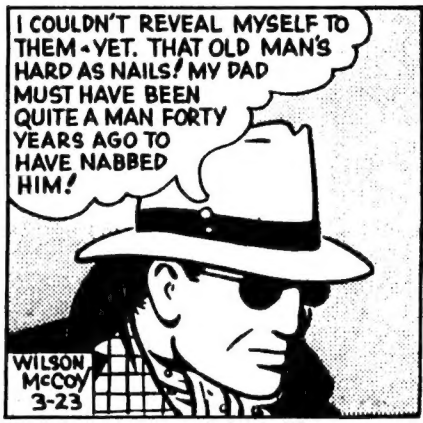
DON'T LOOK BACK. THERE'S A MAN WITH A DOG. I THINK HE'S TRAILING US
YEAH?

YOU FOLLOWING US?
WHO--ME?
WILSON, McCOY 3-22

ME, FOLLOWING YOU? WHY, I JUST LIVE OVER THERE. I WAS-WALKING MY DOG. IS THIS-A HOLDUP?
NAW--

MY MISTAKE. I-ER-AM CARRYING VALUABLE SECURITIES. I THOUGHT YOU WERE A HOLDUP MAN. HO-HO--
WE WERE BOTH WRONG, WEREN'T WE?

YOU'RE PRETTY QUICK WITH THAT GUN, POP.
I'M JUMPY. I WILL BE UNTIL I GET THAT GOLD.


I COULDN'T REVEAL MYSELF TO THEM-YET. THAT OLD MAN'S HARD AS NAILS! MY DAD MUST HAVE BEEN QUITE A MAN FORTY YEARS AGO TO HAVE NABBED HIM!
WILSON, McCOY 3-23

DON'T KEEP US IN SUSPENSE! YOU'VE SOLVED THE MYSTERY OF THE MAN WITH THE FORTY-YEAR-OLD PHANTOM MARK! TELL US!
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LIKE MOST MYSTERIES, THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE. THE MARK WAS MADE BY MY FATHER.
OF COURSE!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

KILLER STYX. DAD TOLD ME ABOUT HIM WHEN I WAS A BOY. AND STYX'S SON MIKE. WHAT ARE THEY UP TO? MAYBE NOTHING--

I DOUBT IT. STYX IS TOO QUICK WITH A GUN. I'VE GOT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HIM.
--SOMETIMES, I WISH YOU WERE A SALESMAN, OR A GROCER--
WILSON McCOY 3-24

ROOF, PLEASE.
YES, SIR.

STYX AND HIS SON ARE ON THE FLOOR JUST BELOW. I HAVE A HUNCH THEY'RE UP TO SOMETHING--

--I'LL FIND OUT SOON--

WILSON McCOY 3-25

BESIDES EQUIPMENT, WE'LL NEED A COUPLE OF STRONG, TOUGH MEN TO HELP US RAISE THAT GOLD.
AW, POP--

--IF WE GET TWO GUYS TO HELP US, WE'LL HAVE TO CUT THEM IN ON THE DEAL. IS THAT GOOD?

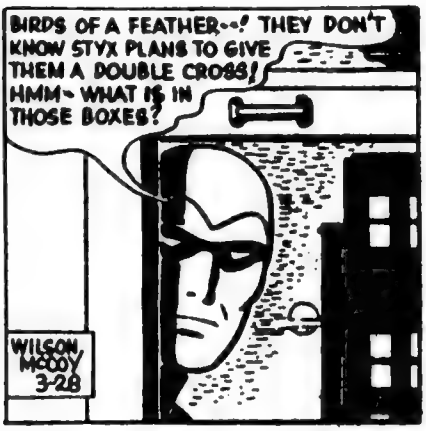
YOU'RE GREEN, SON. AFTER WE FINISH THE JOB, WE'LL CUT THEM OUT--BUT GOOD! YOU'LL LEARN.

NICE, FATHERLY ADVICE! SO THEY ARE UP TO SOMETHING-- AND IT SOUNDS-- MESSY!
WILSON McCOY 3-26

YOU'RE GONNA GIVE US FIVE GRAND EACH--TO DO WHAT?
TO RAISE SOME BOXES FROM THE OCEAN BOTTOM.

WHAT'S IN THE BOXES?
NO QUESTIONS--NOW OR IN THE FUTURE! JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD! PERIOD!

OKAY, STYX. FOR FIVE GRAND I'D RAISE THE OCEAN BOTTOM ITSELF!
GOOD. LET'S GO!


BIRDS OF A FEATHER--! THEY DON'T KNOW STYX PLANS TO GIVE THEM A DOUBLE CROSS! HMM--WHAT IS IN THOSE BOXES?
WILSON McCOY 3-28

STYX AND HIS MEN LOAD EQUIPMENT ON THE LAUNCH.
CARGOL

YOU KNOW WHAT'S IN THEM BOXES WE'RE GONNA RAISE?
WANNA STAY HEALTHY? REMEMBER WHAT POP SAID--NO QUESTIONS!

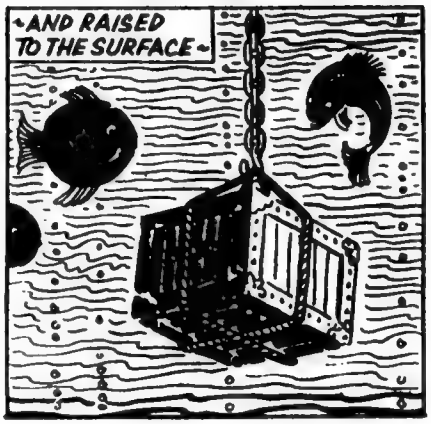
THIS IS THE PLACE! CAST THE ANCHOR HERE! THERE'S NOTHING TO STOP US NOW!

AND HIDDEN IN THE HOLD OF THE LAUNCH.
OH, NO?
WILSON McCOY 3-29

YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?
YEP, CLIMB THE WRECK, CUT THRU THE IRON DOOR WHERE THE BOXES ARE.

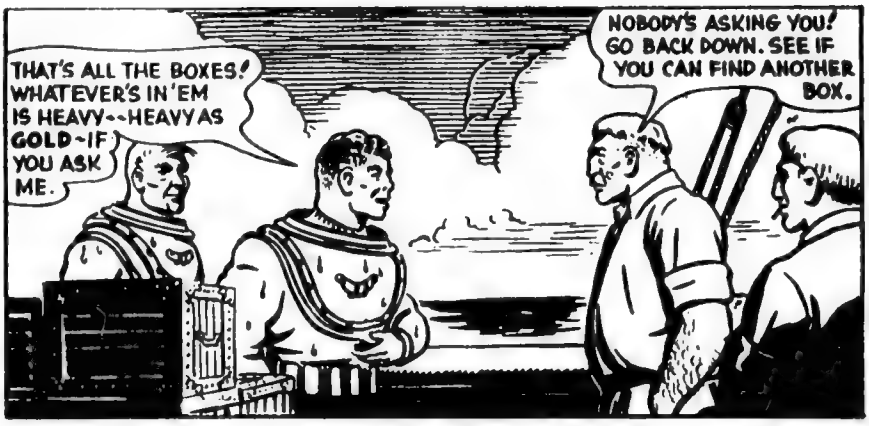
WE'RE READY FOR THE LINES! SAY--WE SAW SOME SKELETONS DOWN THERE! WHO ARE--?
OLD FRIENDS OF MINE--WHO ASKED TOO MANY QUESTIONS!
WILSON McCOY 3-30

THE IRON BOXES ARE REMOVED FROM THE WRECK~
HEAVY!


~AND RAISED TO THE SURFACE~

OPEN IT! OPEN IT!
HOLD YOUR HORSES, POP! THIS THING'S ~HEAVY!

SOLID ~GOLD~ ~BARS!
AH ~AND LOTS MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM!
WILSON McCOY 3-31


THAT'S ALL THE BOXES! WHATEVER'S IN 'EM IS HEAVY~~HEAVY AS GOLD~IF YOU ASK ME.
NOBODY'S ASKING YOU! GO BACK DOWN. SEE IF YOU CAN FIND ANOTHER BOX.

I THOUGHT YOU SAID THAT WAS ALL OF THE BOXES!
I DID, SON! BUT THEY'RE GETTIN' TOO NOSY! I KNEW THEY WOULD!

WHAT 'LL WE DO, POP?
THERE'S AN AXE IN THE CABIN. BRING IT TO ME! I'LL CUT THEIR AIR LINES~~!
WILSON McCOY 4-1

AS THE TWO DIVERS PROBE THE UNDER-WATER WRECK~~

POP, I DON'T THINK WE OUGHTA~~
GIVE ME THAT AXE! WE CAN'T TRUST THOSE TWO! THIS IS OUR CHANCE~~~

~ONE BLOW~AND THE AIR LINES WILL BE CUT IN TWO~~
POP! ~LOOK AT THAT AXE!

ON THE AXE ~THE MYSTERIOUS, DREADED MARK OF THE PHANTOM!
WILSON McCOY 4-2

DON'T CUT THOSE AIR LINES, STYX!
YOU--THE PHANTOM!

UNCHANGED-AFTER FORTY YEARS!
SO-WE MEET AGAIN!
THIS IS THE PHANTOM'S JOKE. HIS FATHER MET STYX FORTY YEARS AGO.
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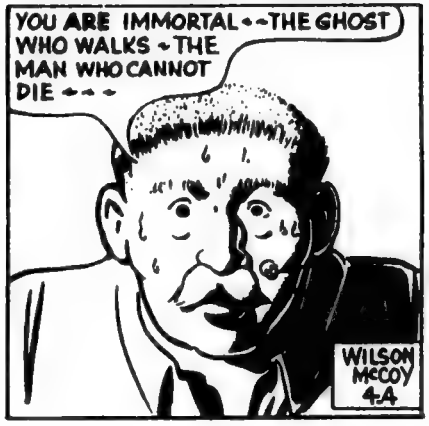
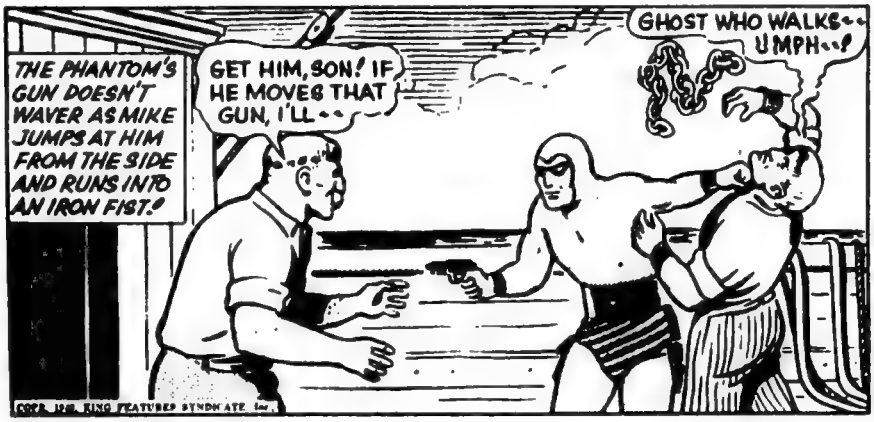

YOU ARE IMMORTAL--THE GHOST WHO WALKS-THE MAN WHO CANNOT DIE---
WILSON McCOY 4-4

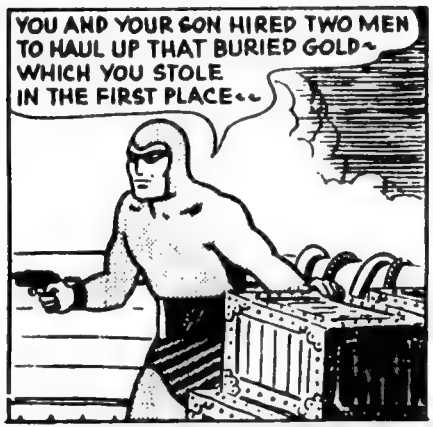
BUT MIKE, STYX'S SON, ISN'T SO IMPRESSED--


THE PHANTOM'S GUN DOESN'T WAVER AS MIKE JUMPS AT HIM FROM THE SIDE AND RUNS INTO AN IRON FIST!
GET HIM, SON! IF HE MOVES THAT GUN, I'LL--
GHOST WHO WALKS-- UMPH--!
COPR. 1949 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

MIKE SHAKES HIMSELF DIZZILY--
UH-WHAT A SOCK--!

THUS FATHER AND SON CARRY THE PHANTOM MARK--RECEIVED FROM FATHER AND SON!
NOW-YOU'VE GOT ONE, TOO!
WILSON McCOY 4-5

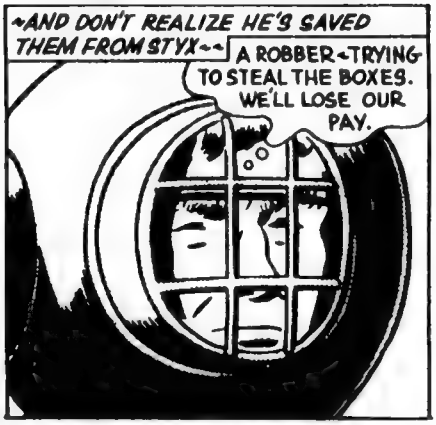
HOW CAN YOU BE THE SAME MAN I KNEW FORTY YEARS AGO? YOU WERE OLDER THAN I WAS--
NEAT PLOT YOU'VE COOKED UP, STYX.

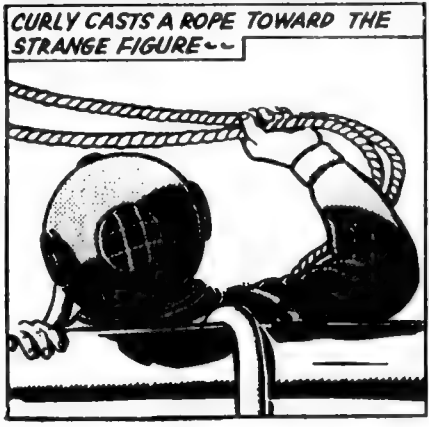

YOU AND YOUR SON HIRED TWO MEN TO HAUL UP THAT BURIED GOLD-WHICH YOU STOLE IN THE FIRST PLACE--

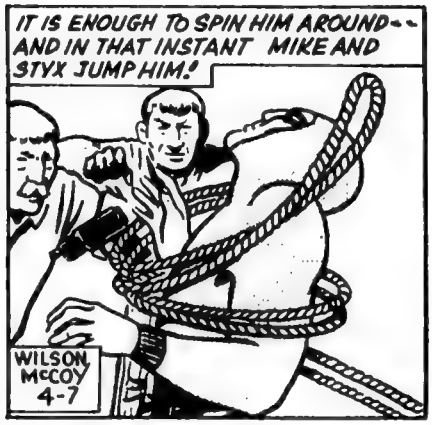
NOW YOU'VE GOT THE GOLD, AND YOU WERE ABOUT TO KILL THEM WHILE THEY WERE UNDER WATER! WOW-HOW LOW CAN YOU GET?
WILSON McCOY 4-6
COPR. 1949 KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

THE DIVERS, REACHING THE SURFACE, KNOW NOTHING OF STYX'S PLOT AGAINST THEM--

COMING TO THE SURFACE, THE DIVERS SEE THE STRANGE FIGURE OF THE PHANTOM--


--AND DON'T REALIZE HE'S SAVED THEM FROM STYX--
A ROBBER--TRYING TO STEAL THE BOXES. WE'LL LOSE OUR PAY.

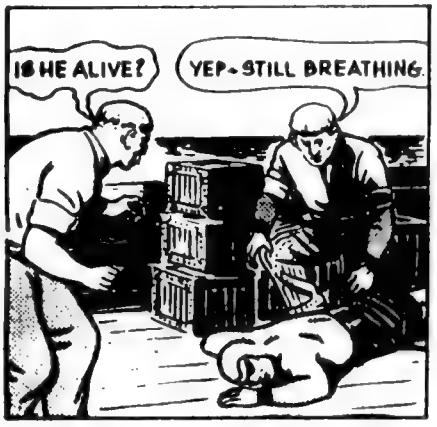

CURLY CASTS A ROPE TOWARD THE STRANGE FIGURE--


IT IS ENOUGH TO SPIN HIM AROUND-- AND IN THAT INSTANT MIKE AND STYX JUMP HIM!
WILSON McCOY 4-7

AS THE PHANTOM FIGHTS OFF STYX AND HIS SON--

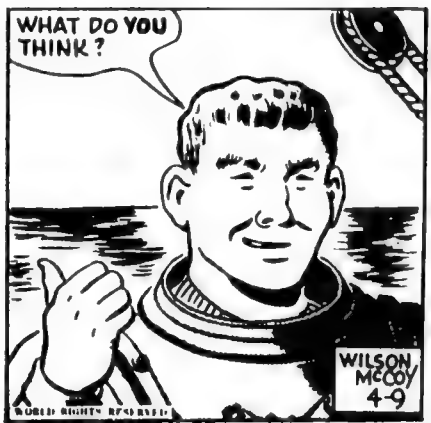
THEN-- FROM BEHIND--

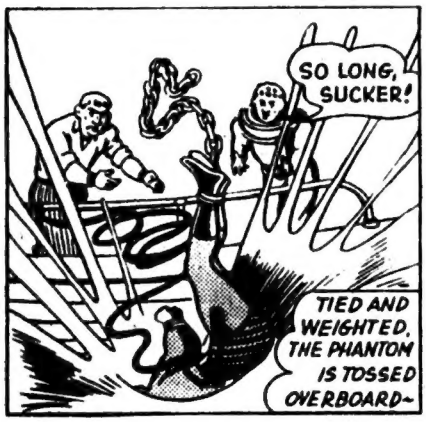
WHAT--IN BLAZES?! WHO IS THAT?!
THE PHANTOM! HE--- HE TRIED TO HIJACK OUR BOXES! HE'S A--THIEF!
WILSON McCOY 4-8


IS HE ALIVE?
YEP--STILL BREATHING.

THE DIVERS DON'T REALIZE THE PHANTOM SAVED THEM FROM STYX--
STYX, WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT? DO YOU KNOW THIS MASKED GUY?

I'LL TELL YOU THIS! IF HE LIVES, NEITHER OF YOU WILL GET YOUR FIVE GRAND!
YEAH? WHAT'LL WE DO WITH HIM?


WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WILSON McCOY 4-9


SO LONG, SUCKER!
TIED AND WEIGHTED, THE PHANTOM IS TOSSED OVERBOARD~

NOW WE'LL SEE HOW IMMORTAL THE PHANTOM IS! "GHOST WHO WALKS"~ PAH!

UNDER WATER, THE PHANTOM SINKS RAPIDLY~UNKNOWN TO THEM, HE HASN'T BEEN UNCONSCIOUS~~~

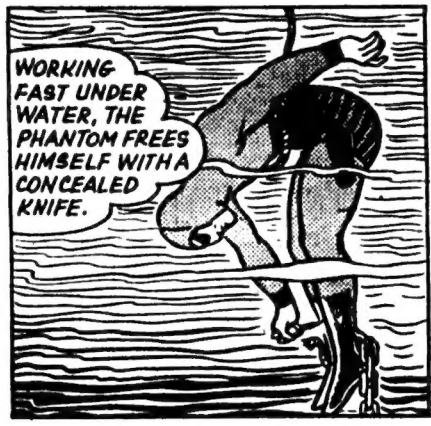
IF I CAN ONLY GET TO MY KNIFE!
WILSON McCOY 4-11

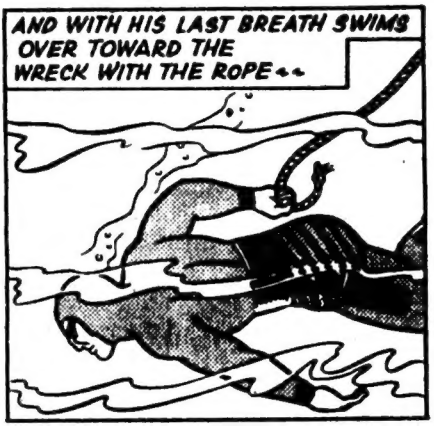
UNDER WATER, THE PHANTOM WORKS FAST~~
I'M LIKE A FISH ON THE END OF A LINE!

QUICKLY HE GOES TO WORK WITH A CONCEALED KNIFE.

CAN'T SE . HIM ANY MORE~
HE WON'T LAST LONG~~

I'VE WAITED A LIFETIME TO GET EVEN WITH THE PHANTOM! NOW~IT'S HAPPENED! REVENGE IS SWEET!
WILSON McCOY 4-12


WORKING FAST UNDER WATER, THE PHANTOM FREES HIMSELF WITH A CONCEALED KNIFE.


AND WITH HIS LAST BREATH SWIMS OVER TOWARD THE WRECK WITH THE ROPE~~

~THEN REACHES THE SURFACE, UNSEEN!
AH~~ AIR!

NO MORE MOVEMENT! HE'S FINISHED!
COME ON, POP, LET'S GET GOING!
WILSON McCOY 4-13

WELL, YOU GOT THE BOXES..
YEAH, OUR BOXES! WAIT OVER THERE.

WHAT ABOUT THEM TWO? THEY'RE WISE TO WHAT'S IN THE..
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM..LATER.

NO, NOW! WILL YOU FORGET ABOUT THAT HOODOO GUY! HE'S COLDER'N A MACKEREL!
FORGET HIM?.. AFTER CARRYING HIS MARK FOR FORTY YEARS?

..AND THEN SEEIN' HIM POP UP AGAIN, AS YOUNG AS HE WAS THEN! NO, SIREE.I'M WAITIN' TO MAKE SURE HE'S FINISHED!
WILSON McCOY 4-14

IS YOUR OLD MAN GOING CRACKERS ABOUT THAT DEAD HIJACKER?
I DON'T KNOW..

POP, WILL YOU COME ON? WE GOTTA GET THIS STUFF BACK TO LAND.WE GOT LOTS TO DO!
LET ME BE, SON..

I'M LEAVING HIM DOWN THERE AN HOUR! THEN WE SEE.IF HE IS REALLY THE "MAN WHO NEVER DIES!" I'M TAKIN' NO CHANCE!
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, INC.

MEANWHILE, THE PHANTOM WAITS PATIENTLY, OUT OF SIGHT, NEAR THE STERN! THE BIG MOMENT IS COMING...
WILSON McCOY 4-15

THE HOUR IS UP! PULL HIM UP!

GOTTA HUMOR THE OLD MAN.

WON'T BE LONG. WE'RE ALMOST TO THE END OF THE ROPE. THERE HE..
COPR. 1940, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, INC.

NO..
MIGOSH..
WHAT DO THEY SEE?
WILSON McCOY 4-16
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

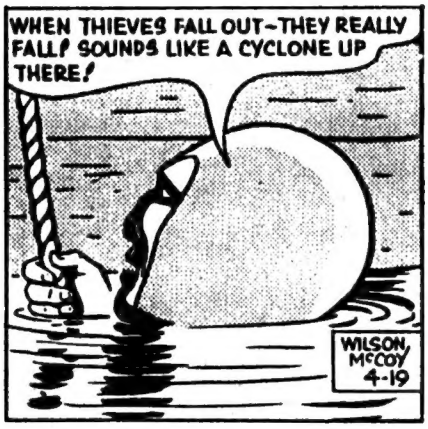
PULLING UP THE ROPE TO WHICH THE PHANTOM HAD BEEN ATTACHED--
IT AIN'T THE PHANTOM- -IT'S--
-A SKELETON!

THROW THE GOLD BACK! IT'S HAUNTED!
POP, CUT IT OUT! THAT'S ONE OF THEM OLD SKELETONS THAT WAS DOWN THERE--

GOLD-- BOXES OF IT!
IT'S ALL OURS--SEE!

AND A BATTLE ROYAL BEGINS ON THE DECK!
YEAH!
WILSON McCOY 4-18

THE MEN BATTLE ON, ALL OVER THE DECK OF THE SMALL LAUNCH--

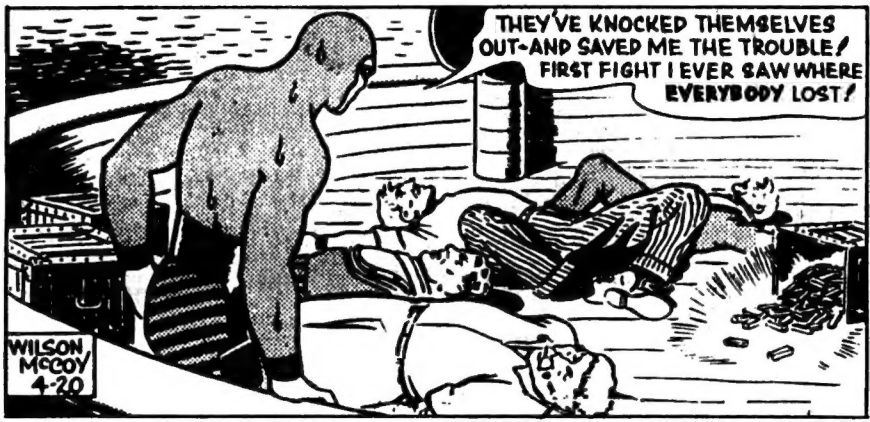

WHEN THIEVES FALL OUT-THEY REALLY FALL! SOUNDS LIKE A CYCLONE UP THERE!
WILSON McCOY 4-19

WE'RE TAKIN' THAT GOLD--
POP- HELP ME--!

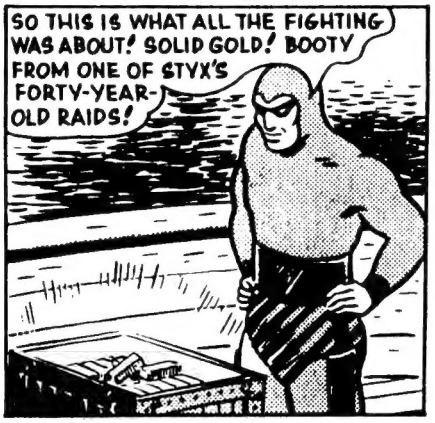
OLD STYX, STILL DAZED, WALKS INTO A HARD FIST--
UHH!

THAT'LL BE ALL-- FOR YOU, CURLY!

NOW YOU!


THEY'VE KNOCKED THEMSELVES OUT-AND SAVED ME THE TROUBLE! FIRST FIGHT I EVER SAW WHERE EVERYBODY LOST!
WILSON McCOY 4-20

THE PHANTOM QUICKLY BINDS THE THIEVES-
WHAT A QUARTET OF ROUGHNECKS! BUT THIS OLD BOY IS THE WORST!


SO THIS IS WHAT ALL THE FIGHTING WAS ABOUT! SOLID GOLD! BOOTY FROM ONE OF STYX'S FORTY-YEAR-OLD RAIDS!

DAD JAILED STYX FORTY YEARS AGO FOR STEALING THE GOLD-- IT'S TAKEN A LONG TIME TO FINISH THE CASE--
WILSON McCOY 4-21
COPR. 1949, KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, Inc.

WHAT IS THIS? I THOUGHT YOU WENT FISHING!
I DID! GOT QUITE A HAUL!
WORLD RIGHTS RESERVED

THERE ARE THE FOUR I PHONED YOU ABOUT, CHIEF.
HMM-WHAT ARE THE CHARGES? AND WHO ARE YOU?

NEVER MIND ME NOW. THAT IS STYX AND MIKE, FATHER AND SON. GUILTY OF THREE ATTEMPTS AT MURDER-THEY TRIED TO GET ME-AND--

-THOSE TWO! WHO WERE FOOLISH ENOUGH NOT TO KNOW THAT I TRIED TO SAVE THEM-THEY TRIED TO KILL ME, TOO!"

SOUNDS COMPLICATED.
THINGS USUALLY ARE, WHENEVER THERE'S THAT MUCH GOLD AROUND!
WILSON McCOY 4-22

-AND SO OLD STYX AND HIS SON PLANNED TO KILL THE TWO MEN THEY HIRED TO RAISE THE GOLD.

AND ALMOST KILLED YOU IN THE BARGAIN! OH, DARLING!
WE CAN'T LOCATE THE OWNERS OF THE GOLD, AFTER ALL THESE YEARS.

IT'LL BE GIVEN TO CHARITIES. STRANGE! THIS ALL STARTED BECAUSE I HAD TO FIND THE MAN WITH THE FORTY-YEAR-OLD PHANTOM MARK--

--TO PROVE TO YOU I WASN'T OLD ENOUGH TO BE YOUR GRANDPA!
NO QUESTION ABOUT THAT, DARLING!
WILSON McCOY 4-23